

CLAIMS:

1. A method of peer to peer transfer of content, said method comprising the steps of:
- receiving and transmitting (100), from a first device (11), a first request with a first selection criterion for a first content to a server (18) or to a second device (12);
- 5 transferring (200) the first content satisfying said first selection criterion to said first device from the server, when said server previously has acknowledged said first device as a legal recipient of said first content and in case said first content is available only on said server, and noting that said first device subsequently has the requested first content available for other devices (14 , 15 , 16, 17); or
- 10 re-directing (300) said first request to a third device (13) on which the server knows that the requested first content is still available and transferring said first content satisfying said first selection criterion to said first device from the third device; or
- transferring (400) the first content satisfying said first selection criterion to said first device from the second device, when said first content is available on said second
- 15 device, and informing the server that said first content has been transferred to said first device from said second device; and
- rewarding (500) the one of said second or third device from which said first content was transferred to said first device, when content was transferred from one of these; and
- 20 charging (600) said first device for reception of said first content.
2. A method according to claim 1, said method further comprising the steps of:
- uploading (700) a second content satisfying a second selection criterion and the second selection criterion to the server from a fourth device; and
- 25 rewarding (800) the fourth device for uploading the second content and the second criterion to the server.

3. A method according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that said content is copy protected content, such as numerical information, picture, video, sound and combinations thereof.
- 5 4. A method according to any one of claims 1 through 3, characterized in that said content comprises one or more selected from the group:
- a DVD picture and sound signal;
 - a CD sound signal;
 - a given digital audio format (e.g. MP3, WMA, Real Audio, WAV, etc);
 - 10 a given digital movie format (e.g. DivX, DVD/MPEG2, Avi, wmf, MOV, Real Video, etc);
 - a given picture format (e.g. JPEG, GIF, BMP, TIFF, etc); and/or
 - any such format that is capable of causing the device to emit a picture and/or sound signal, e.g. G72x, aiff, real.
- 15 5. A method according to any one of claims 1 through 4, characterized in that any of said devices is a video cassette recorder (VCR), a personal digital assistant (PDA), a mobile phone, a television, a radio, a DVD player, a CD player, an information panel, a web tablet, a smart remote, a peer or a personal computer.
- 20 6. A device comprising:
- means for receiving and transmitting a first request with a first selection criterion for a first content to a server (18) or to a second device (12);
 - means for receiving a redirected said first request (13) on which the server
 - 25 knows that the requested first content is still available on said device;
 - means for transferring the first content satisfying said first selection criterion to a first device, when said first content is available on said device, and means for informing the server that said first content has been transferred to said first device;
 - means for being rewarded for transfer of content; and
 - 30 means for being charged for reception of content.
7. A device according to claim 6 further comprising:
- means for uploading a second content satisfying a second selection criterion and the second selection criterion to the server; and

means for being rewarded for the upload of the second content and the second selection criterion to the server.

8. A server comprising:

5 means for receiving a first request with a first selection criterion for a first content;

means for transferring the first content satisfying said first selection criterion to a first device, when said server previously has acknowledged said first device as a legal recipient of said first content and in case said first content is available only on said server, and means for noting that said first device subsequently has the requested first content available for other devices (14 , 15 , 16, 17); and / or

means for re-directing said first request to a third device (13) on which the server knows that the requested first content is still available; and / or

15 means for being informed that said first content has been transferred to said first device from said third device;

means for rewarding the one of said second or third device from which said first content was transferred to said first device, when content was transferred from one of these; and

20 means for charging said first device for reception of said first content.

9. A server according to claim 8 further comprising:

means for being uploaded with a second content satisfying a second selection criterion and means for being uploaded with the second selection criterion from a fourth device; and

25 means for rewarding the fourth device for uploading the second content and the second criterion.

10. A system comprising:

30 means for receiving and transmitting, from a first device (11), a first request with a first selection criterion for a first content to a server (18) or to a second device (12);

means for transferring the first content satisfying said first selection criterion to said first device from the server, when said server previously has acknowledged said first device as a legal recipient of said first content and in case said first content is available only

on said server, and noting that said first device subsequently has the requested first content available for other devices (14 , 15 , 16, 17);

- means for re-directing said first request to a third device (13) on which the server knows that the requested first content is still available and transferring said first content satisfying said first selection criterion to said first device from the third device;
- means for transferring the first content satisfying said first selection criterion to said first device from the second device, when said first content is available on said second device, and informing the server that said first content has been transferred to said first device from said second device;
- means for rewarding the one of said second or third device from which said first content was transferred to said first device, when content was transferred from one of these; and
- means for charging said first device for reception of said first content.

11. A system according to claim 10 further comprising:
- means for uploading a second content satisfying a second selection criterion and the second selection criterion to the server from a fourth device; and
- means for rewarding the fourth device for uploading the second content and the second criterion to the server.
12. A computer system for performing the method according to any one of claims 1 through 5.
13. A computer program product comprising program code means stored on a computer readable medium for performing the method of any one of claims 1 through 5 when the computer program is run on a computer.